

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-5 without prejudice. Claims 5-10 are new.

Please amend the following of the claims which are pending in the present application:

1-5. (Cancelled)

6. (New) A product pack suitable for housing a combination of liquid and solid elements, comprising: a part of the pack for facilitating the separation of said elements; wherein the part of the pack is constructed to segregate and absorb a substantial portion of the liquid without any undue external leakage; whereby at least said part and its liquid can subsequently be discarded as waste.

7. (New) A pack according to claim 6, comprising at least one porous membrane inside the pack through which, in use, the liquid passes and an absorbent pad; whereby the liquid having passed the membrane is subsequently absorbed by the pad.

8. (New) A pack according to claim 7, comprising a space between said membrane and said pad; whereby the liquid passes the membrane and is subsequently absorbed by the pad whilst the space contributes to the segregation of the absorbed liquid from the solid elements in the pack.

9. (New) A pack according to claim 6, wherein the pack material is ovenable.

10. (New) A component, suitable for use as part of a pack in accordance with claim 6 and comprising an absorbent pad and a membrane, which in use, is intended to be in proximity to a combination of liquid and solid elements, the membrane incorporating pores to allow liquid to flow through the membrane and be absorbed by the pad, the pores of the membrane being sized so as to substantially prevent the passage of solid elements, whereby the component acts to segregate the liquid elements absorbed from the solid elements.